

**PATENT**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: **Hisami IBARAKI**

Serial Number: **Not Yet Assigned**  
(§ 371 of international application No. PCT/JP01/05951)

Filed: **March 6, 2002**

For: **PRIORITY DETERMINATION DEVICE, PRIORITY DETERMINING  
METHOD, AND PRIORITY DETERMINATION PROGRAM**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 6, 2002

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of the filing fees of the above application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claim 6 to read as follows,

6. (Amended) The priority determination device according to any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that said operation unit comprises a speech recognition operation unit that performs a speech recognition operation.

Hisami IBARAKI

Docket No. 020278

REMARKS

The above amendment is believed to place the claims in proper condition for examination.

Early and favorable action is awaited.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

In the event there are any additional fees required, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP



William G. Kratz, Jr.  
Reg. No. 22,631

Atty. Docket No. 020278  
Suite 1000  
1725 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
Tel: (202) 659-2930  
WGK/yap

